

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 212778
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/S:JDAVIDOW:DH

APPROVED BY:AF/S:DKEOGH

-----118687 062046Z /63

O 062022Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212778

FOLLOWING REPEAT PRETORIA 4577 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO JOHANNESBURG 06 SEP 77

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4577

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, CASC

SUBJECT: ARREST IN RHODESIA OF AMERICAN NUN

REF: STATE 211719

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL ON SEPT 3, WE CONTACTED RHODESIAN REP HAWKINS WHO THIS MORNING, SEPT 6, PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL REPORT FROM RHODESIAN SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE CLAYPOLE ON THE STATUS OF SISTER JANICE MCLOUGHLIN; "THE THREE MEN WHO WERE CHARGED WITH SISTER MCLOUGHLIN: HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO COURT AND CHARGED IN TERMS OF THE LAW AND ORDER MAINTENANCE ACT AND IN TERMS OF THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT. THEY ARE REMANDED UNTIL TRIAL AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

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BAIL HAS BEEN ALLOWED FOR THE THREE MEN. IN THE CASE OF SISTER MCLOUGHLIN, INVESTIGATIONS ARE INCOMPLETE, BUT THE INTENTION IS TO BRING HER TO COURT SOON ON CHARGES UNDER THE LAW AND ORDER MAINTENANCE ACT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT PROSECUTION WILL GO AHEAD IN HER CASE ALSO. SHE WAS IN RHODESIA FOR A SHORT VISIT AND WAS TO LEAVE ON 31 JUNE BUT WAS HELD BECAUSE OF SUSPECTED COMPLICITY IN CRIMINAL ACTIONS. AT GCGQ BASED IN KENYA.

SHE WAS FOUND TO BE IN POSSESSION OF DOCUMENTS CONTAINING UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS, INCLUDING TORTURE. THE CASE AGAINST HER IS STRONG. IT IS HAWKINS' PERSONAL OPINION THAT, WHEN THE CASE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, SISTER MCLOUGHLIN WILL BE DEPORTED. ELAVUTH AFRICA. ACCORDING

TO SALISBURY DATELINE STORIES, THE THREE MEN ARE MR. JOHN DEARY, BROTHER JOSEPH FERNAND DU PUIS, AND FATHER DIETER SCHOLZ. CHARGES AGAINST THE GROUP ARE SAID TO ARISE OUT OF A REPORT BY THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE THAT THE RHODESIAN ARMY HAD BEEN TORTURING BLACK CIVILAINS. THE PRESS NOTES THAT THE COMMISSION REPORT HAS BEEN GIVEN PROMINENT ATTENTION BY BRITISH NEWSPAPERS AND THE BBC. THE PRETORIA NEWS AFRICA SERVICE IDENTIFIES JOHN DEARY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION AND STATES THAT SISTER MCLOUGHLIN WENT TO RHODESIA EARLY THIS YEAR TO HEAD THE COMMISSION'S PUBLICITY SECTION. A SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION (SAPA) STORY FROM SALISBURY STATES THAT THE MEN WERE NOT ASKED TO PLEAD, THAT THEIR BAIL WAS SET AT R1,300 (R1 EQUALS \$1.15), AND THAT POLICE SEARCHES OF OFFICIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PREMISES OF THE ACCUSED HAD TURNED UP "DOCUMENTS OF A CLASSIFIED NATURE". THE SAME SAPA STORY REPORTS THAT SISTER MCLOUGHLIN IS BEING HELD UNDER STATE OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS ALLOWING 30 DAYS DETENTION PRIOR TO INDICTMENT. IT ADDS THAT "SOURCES SAID" HER CASE IS "MORE COMPLICATED" THAN THAT OF THE MEN. BOWDLER UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE212778
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/S:JDAVIDOW:DH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770322-0742
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770994/aaaadbjq.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2d58034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 211719
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Jun-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1375173
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARREST IN RHODESIA OF AMERICAN NUN
TAGS: CASC, RH, (MCLOUGHLIN, JANICE)
To: LUSAKA NAIROBI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2d58034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009